

- Thorpe, W. H. 1930. Observations on the parasites of the pine-shoot moth, *Rhyacionia buoliana*, Schiff. *Bulletin of Entomological Research* **21**: 387–412.
- Wahl, D. B. & Gauld, I. D. 1998. The cladistics and higher classification of the Pimpliformes (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae). *Systematic Entomology* **23**: 265–298.
- Westwood, J. O. 1833. Further notices of the British parasitic hymenopterous insects; together with the “Transactions of a fly with a long tail”, observed by Mr E. W. Lewis; and additional observations. *Magazine of Natural History* **6**: 414–421.
- Yu, D. S. & Horstmann, K. 1997. A catalogue of world Ichneumonidae (Hymenoptera). *Memoirs of the American Entomological Institute* **58** (1 and 2): 1–1558.
- Zijp, J.-P. & Blommers, L. H. M. 2002. Survival mode between the yearly reproductive periods, and reproductive biology of *Scambus pomorum* (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae: Pimplinae), a parasitoid of the apple blossom weevil *Anthonomus pomorum* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). *Entomologia Generalis* **26**: 29–46.

## SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

***Iassus scutellaris* (Fieber) (Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha) new to Berkshire**—A single female *I. scutellaris* was swept from a 2m high *Ulmus procera* on 12.ix.06 at the edge of a mixed deciduous woodland at Reading University campus, Reading, Berkshire (SU741715). Identity was confirmed following dissection using Wilson (1981). No further examples were found. *Iassus scutellaris* has been recorded from Middlesex, Surrey, Kent and Essex (Kirby, 1992) with recent records from Suffolk and Cambridgeshire (Kirby, 2004), suggesting that it is actively spreading in Britain. It is extremely likely that *I. scutellaris* is already well established in Berkshire and has merely been overlooked, as the Berkshire locality is less than 50 miles west from Mitcham Common where *I. scutellaris* was first discovered in the UK (Wilson, 1981).—ALEX J. RAMSAY, Centre for Agri-Environmental Research, School of Agriculture, Policy and Development, University of Reading, Reading RG6 6AR.

## REFERENCES

- Kirby, P. 1992. A review of the scarce and threatened Hemiptera of Great Britain. *UK Nature Conservation*, 2. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.
- Kirby, P. 2004. *Wimpole estate survey of invertebrates of arable farmland*, 2003 Report to the National Trust.
- Wilson, M.R. 1981. Identification of European *Iassus* species (Homoptera: Cicadellidae) with one species new to Britain. *Systematic Entomology* **6**: 115–118.

**Two new predatory insects reach Perry Woods, Selling, Kent.**—The hornet *Vespa crabro* L. has been spreading eastwards and northwards across Kent (VCs 15 & 16) in recent years. The first sighting locally was of adults and a nest of this species in an old cherry tree on the southern edge of Fridhill Wood in 2005, but the nest was completely destroyed by ?woodpeckers during the winter of 2005/06. I received reports of adult workers in various localities around Perry Woods during the summer of 2006. The very first workers captured in the Rothamsted trap in my garden were recorded on 20.ix.2006, and the odd specimen or two have appeared nightly since then, though not on rainy nights.

The first adult harlequin beetle, *Harmonia axyridis* Pallas appeared in the light-trap on 21.ix.2006. This species appears to be established in an area east of Faversham (Mervyn Crow, pers. comm.) but until now has not reached the surrounding wooded countryside. No other adults have been found locally despite a fortnightly sampling regime of trees and shrubs in Perry Woods. — J. S. BADMIN, Coppice Place, Selling, Kent ME13 9RP.